## PAUL | MICHAEL VIGNA | J. CASEY

# THE AGE OF

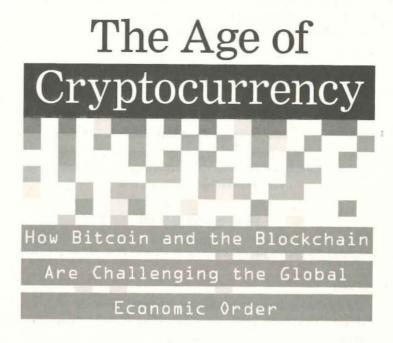
"Vigna and Casey's thorough, timely, and colorful book is a rewarding place to learn it all."

— THE NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW

HOW BITCOIN AND THE BLOCKCHAIN ARE CHALLENGING THE GLOBAL ECONOMIC ORDER

PICADOR

WITH A NEW AFTERWORD



## PAUL VIGNA and MICHAEL J. CASEY

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For Elizabeth
—PV

For Mum and Dad
—MC

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## "Smart and conscientious, The Age of Cryptocurrency is the most thorough and readable account of the short life of this controversial currency."

### - THE WASHINGTON POST

It can buy you anything from a slice of pizza to a luxury villa. It might be worth anywhere from a few dollars to a few thousand dollars. As mysterious as it is disruptive, it is at once everywhere and nowhere at all, a cyber-enigma that raises the question: What exactly is bitcoin, and why should anyone care about it, anyway?

In The Age of Cryptocurrency, business journalists Paul Vigna and Michael J. Casey deliver the definitive answer.

Bitcoin is digital money for a digital age, and although it's often associated in the public mind with instability, wild fluctuation, and illicit dealings, its underlying "blockchain" technology is poised to launch a revolution. The blockchain can handle everything from merchant payments and copyright management to personal IDs and

"smart" legal contracts. While opponents decry the now-infamous Mt. Gox and Silk Road fiascos, bitcoin's supporters herald a great equalizer imbued with the potential

> to reinvent and reinvigorate the global marketplace. Some people fear it will eliminate jobs; others insist it will bring billions of "unbanked" individuals into a new and expanded world economy. Whatever your position, one thing

is clear: cryptocurrency is here to stay.

It implies wide-reaching change—for better and for worse—and you ignore it at your peril.

Vigna and Casey demystify cryptocurrency, detailing everything you'll need to know to navigate a crypto-economy. The digital currency world will look very different from the paper currency world; *The Age of Cryptocurrency* will teach you how to be ready for it.

"For any book on bitcoin to be worth reading, it has to delve further: into the cryptocurrency's ideological and technical roots, for instance, or what it adds to the narrative of money, or even what its economic and political impact may be....There is plenty to write about if you are serious. Paul Vigna and Michael Casey, two journalists at *The Wall Street Journal*, are certainly serious."

- THE ECONOMIST

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